Mega Millions®



GENERAL INFORMATION

Mega Millions began on August 31, 1996 as the Big Game with six states participating: Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan and Virginia.

After exciting growth of the game in 1997, a Tuesday drawing was added in February 1998. Players were give a larger choice of number and a "cash payout" option in January 1999 and in May 1999, New Jersey became the seventh member state.

Mega Millions, in its current form, began in May 2002. New York and Ohio became member states, and the game matrix and the prize amounts were changed to offer players more excitement.

In September 2002, Washington became the 10th member state, followed by Texas in December 2003 and California in June 2005. The addition of California as the 12th member state solidified Mega Millions as the country's most widely played multi-state jackpot game. Over 52 percent of the United States population lives in the 12 states that offered Mega Millions prior to the start of cross-selling.

TOP 10 MEGA MILLIONS RECORD JACKPOTS

Rank	Amount	Draw Date	Number of Winning Tickets	States With Winning Tickets
1	\$390 million	3/6/2007	2	Georgia, New Jersey
2	\$336 million	8/28/2009	2	California, New York
3	\$330 million	8/31/2007	4	Maryland, New Jersey, Texas, Virginia
4	\$315 million	11/15/2005	1	California
5	\$294 million	7/2/2004	1	Massachusetts
6	\$275 million	2/22/2008	1	Georgia
7	\$270 million	2/28/2006	1	Ohio
8	\$265 million	4/18/2006	1	Ohio
9	\$258 million	9/16/2005	1	New Jersey
10	\$239 million	2/20/2004	1	Virginia

TOP 20 U.S. LOTTERY JACKPOTS

State	Prize Amount	Draw Date	Tickets Sold	Game
1. GA, NJ	\$390.0 million	March 6, 2007	2	Mega Millions
2. NE	\$365.0 million	February 18, 2006	1	Powerball
3. IL, MI	\$363.0 million	May 9, 2000	2	The Big Game
4. OR	\$340.0 million	October 19, 2005	1	Powerball

5. CA, NY	\$336.0 million	August 28, 2009	2	Mega Millions
6. GA, IL, NJ	\$340.0 million	April 16, 2002	3	The Big Game
7. MD, NJ, TX,	\$330.0 million	August 31, 2007	4	Mega Millions
VI				
8. CA	\$315.0 million	November 15, 2005	1	Mega Millions
9. WV	\$314.9 million	December 25, 2007	1	Powerball
10. IN	\$314.3 million	August 25, 2007	1	Powerball
11. IN	\$295.7 million	July 29, 1998	1	Powerball
12. DE, KY, NH,	\$295.0 million	August 25, 2001	4	Powerball
MN				
13. MA	\$294.0 million	July 2, 2004	1	Mega Millions
14. WV	\$276.3 million	March 15, 2008	1	Powerball
15. GA	\$275.0 million	February 22, 2008	1	Mega Millions
16. OH	\$270.0 million	February 28, 2006	1	Mega Millions
17. OH	\$265.0 million	April 18, 2006	1	Mega Millions
18. MO, PA	\$261.3 million	July 9, 2003	2	Powerball
19. SC	\$259.9 million	August 19, 2009	1	Powerball
20. NJ	\$258.0 million	September 16, 2005	1	Mega Millions

Since the modern version of the game began in 2002, the Mega Millions jackpot has been hit a total of 94 times on 108 winning tickets.

On March 6, 2007, Mega Millions made history with a jackpot of \$390 million – setting the record for the largest jackpot in North America.

HOW TO PLAY AND WIN

Select 5 numbers from 1 to 56 and 1 Gold Mega Ball number from 1 to 46 or select the "Easy Pick" option and the computer will randomly pick your numbers.

The Mega Millions pool closes at 10:45 p.m. the day of the drawing.

Balls MATCHED	Prize	Odds to Win
→	Jackpot*	1 in 175,711,536
	\$250,000	1 in 3,904,701
→	\$10,000	1 in 689,065
	\$150	1 in 15,313
→	\$150	1 in 13,781
→	\$10	1 in 844
	\$7	1 in 306

) +)	\$3	1 in 141		
	\$2	1 in 75		
Overell adds to vinc 4 in 40				

Overall odds to win: 1 in 40

*If two or more persons match 6 of 6 numbers in the same drawing, the jackpot is shared equally among all winning tickets.

Lotteries can pay Mega Millions jackpot winnings in one of two ways: as an annuity or in one lump-sum/cash-option payment for the present cash value of the jackpot share. When a winner selects annuity payments, the jackpot is paid out in equal installments over 26 years. When a winner selects the cash option, the Lottery pays the winner the present cash value of the announced jackpot in one lump-sum payment. In effect, the Lottery takes all of the money that would have been invested to fund the 26-year annuity and turns it all over to the winner, retaining absolutely none of the prize.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

Each dollar you spend on your Mega Millions ticket benefits the state where it was purchased.

- On average, approx. 34 percent of Mega Millions ticket sales support government services in the member state.
- Approximately 50 percent of every dollar wagered goes back in the players in prizes.
- Approximately 15 percent goes to retailer commissions and Lottery operating costs.

Specific details differ slightly in each state where Mega Millions is played.